

CLASSIFICATION **S-E-C-R-E-T**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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COUNTRY **East Germany**DATE DISTR **8 November 1955**SUBJECT **Import and Export Plan Fulfillment in  
the Metallurgical Field**NO. OF PAGES **1**PLACE  
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1. As of 30 June 1955, the Import and Export Plans of the East German Ministry for Heavy Industry had been fulfilled in the metallurgical field as follows:

a) Export of pig iron and ferrous alloys	94.5 %
b) Import of rolled steel products (Walzguteneisen)	94.4 %
c) Import of non-ferrous metals	89.1 %

2. However, it should be noted that the Import plan was not put into final form until May 1955 and then on the basis of established import possibilities at that time.

As a result there were considerable difficulties in the continual procurement of certain plan items. Nickel was one such item. The plan quota originally announced by the Ministry for Foreign and Domestic Trade at the beginning of the plan year amounted to 1,500 tons for 1955 - 375 tons per quarter. The quota finally set down in the Economic plan II: nickel was as follows:

1st quarter	86 tons		
2nd quarter	254 tons		
3rd quarter	450 tons		
4th quarter	660 tons	A total of	1,450 tons

3. Export Plan Fulfillment

Product (in tons)	Plan 1955	First Half of 1955		Fulfillment %
		Planned	Achieved	
Cast pig iron	2,110	2,110	2,110	100
Ferrosilicon	1,400	355	465	131
Ferro-manganese	1,000	300	-	-
Ferro-chrome	2,000	773	538	89
Ferro-boron	80	80	80	100
Ferro-phosphorus	383	172	242	138
	6,643	3,793	3,585	94.5

(The unfulfillment with respect to ferro-chrome and ferro-manganese was due to the fact that the foreign trade agencies placed the orders too late. The production enterprises received the first ferro-manganese orders only in early 1955. Orders for over 575 tons of ferro-chrome were on hand on 31 May 1955.)

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4. Import Plan Fulfillmenta) Rolled steel products:

Product (in tons)	Plan 1955	First Half of 1955		Fulfillment %
		Planned	Achieved	
Profile steel NP 8-18	14,460	4,450	3,506	79
Profile steel 20 and above	7,660	3,588	3,886	108
Standard rails	50,770	15,381	15,028	93
Sheet bar steel	100,850	42,715	40,216	94
Rough bar steel	72,160	42,085	30,326	72
High-speed steel	1,310	779	704	90
Hollow-drill steel	260	110	111	101
Valve cone steel	75	37	79	214
Stainless bar steel	230	150	97	65
Alloyed structural steel	7,710	2,255	3,263	145
Alloyed tool steel	638	492	408	83
Other high grade steel	830	400	434	109
Warm-rolled strip	5,000	2,911	4,637	159
Rolled wire	22,990	11,902	13,196	111

(Although an overfulfillment is shown for rolled wire, DIA Metall actually imported too little of certain types and also wire of incorrect composition. Thus the requirements for electrode core wire and welding wire could not be covered.)

Armco sheet	47	29	31	108
Sheet with special magnetic properties	5	1	1	100
Other sheet from special steel	300	151	254	168
Acceptance sheet	69,610	28,047	33,367	119

(Part of the acceptance sheet imported was not the desired type so that the requirements for certain types of production could not be covered; at the same time there was an excess of other varieties of sheet.)

Ship's plate	53,000	31,656	33,298	105
Medium sheet	19,100	5,664	8,981	159
Dynamo sheet	995	556	765	138
Transformer sheet	2,800	1,788	1,627	91
Drawn sheet	18,000	6,000	5,049	84
Deep-drawn sheet	25,500	12,800	10,776	85
Thin-gauge sheets over (0.9 - 3 mm in thickness)	38,400	19,700	16,856	86
Thin-gauge sheets (under 0.9 mm in thickness)	16,200	6,900	4,981	72
Tool steel sheets	1,474	703	767	109
High-speed steel sheets	170	81	75	92
Stainless steel sheets	930	467	358	77
Tire steel (Bandagen)	7,771	5,086	4,443	87
Seamless pipe	48,000	21,600	22,817	106

(A considerable quantity of the seamless pipe imported was not in the size desired so that despite overfulfillment of the plan, requirements could not be covered.)

Welded gas pipe	10,200	3,087	3,265	106
Cold-rolled strip	13,000	5,466	3,927	72
Spring strip steel	1,700	870	726	83
Strip steel for cans	2,500	1,397	770	55
Free-cutting steel	10,100	5,176	3,376	65
Silberstahl	740	346	258	75
Other bar steel (bright-drawn)	4,660	2,505	1,511	60
SM - ingot steel	9,740	5,950	3,595	60
	<u>708,374</u>	<u>297,423</u>	<u>280,701</u>	<u>94.4</u>

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b) Non-ferrous metals:

Product (in tons)	Plan 1955	First Half of 1955		Fulfillment %
		Planned	Achieved	
Copper	13,330	2,400	1,651	69
(Because of the shortage of copper, a larger quantity of rolled steel wire was rolled at the Buntmetalle Walzwerk Hettstedt. Requirements for copper wire could not be covered in the electrical industry in particular -- for cable works, armature coil plants, etc.)				
Lead	18,600	9,300	8,250	89
Zinc, metallurgical and fine	17,500	7,185	5,471	76
(The shortage of zinc has caused a cut-back in the production of brass and a reduced production of zinc semi-finished products. This latter has resulted in stoppages of the production of zinc products for battery manufacturers, of brass semi-finished products for the musical instrument industry -- export, for cooling strip (Kuehlbaender) for the automobile industry, and for brass strip (Messingbaender) for the manufacture of light bulbs. The production of brass semi-finished products at the Walzwerk Hettstedt is about one month in arrears.)				
Nickel	1,450	340	233	69
(Even the lowered import plan quota was not met. The manufacture of nickel anodes had to be sharply reduced and demands for nickel-alloyed steels could not be met. As a result, the machine construction industry was unable to fill important export orders on time.)				
Selenium	5	2.3	1.3	57
Aluminum	10,012	5,012	6,036	125
(Overfulfillment of the aluminum import quota was not particularly desirable since the East German aluminum industry does not have enough orders itself. The electrical industry has still not changed over from the use of copper to aluminum to the necessary extent. The stocks of aluminum semi-finished products has increased.)				
Magnesium	1,055	215	227	106
Cobalt	45	20	15	75
Mercury	245	130	79	61
Tin	350	150	157	105
Cadmium	65	33	45	136
Silicon	50	30	30	100
Bronze (Rotguss)	2,000	-	-	-
Tin solder	200	100	-	-
Zircon	0.150	0.050	0.150	300
Beryllium	0.010	0.005	-	-
	64,907.160	24,917.355	22,195.450	89.1

\* Note: Ankerwickelien.

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